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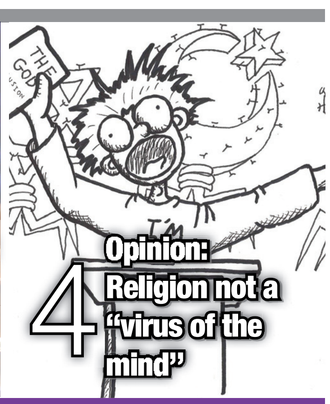
tuesday, december 3, 2013

thecollegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY



VOL. 119 NO. 67

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Tomorrow:
High: 33 °F
Low: 18 °F

Thursday:
High: 25 °F
Low: 12 °F

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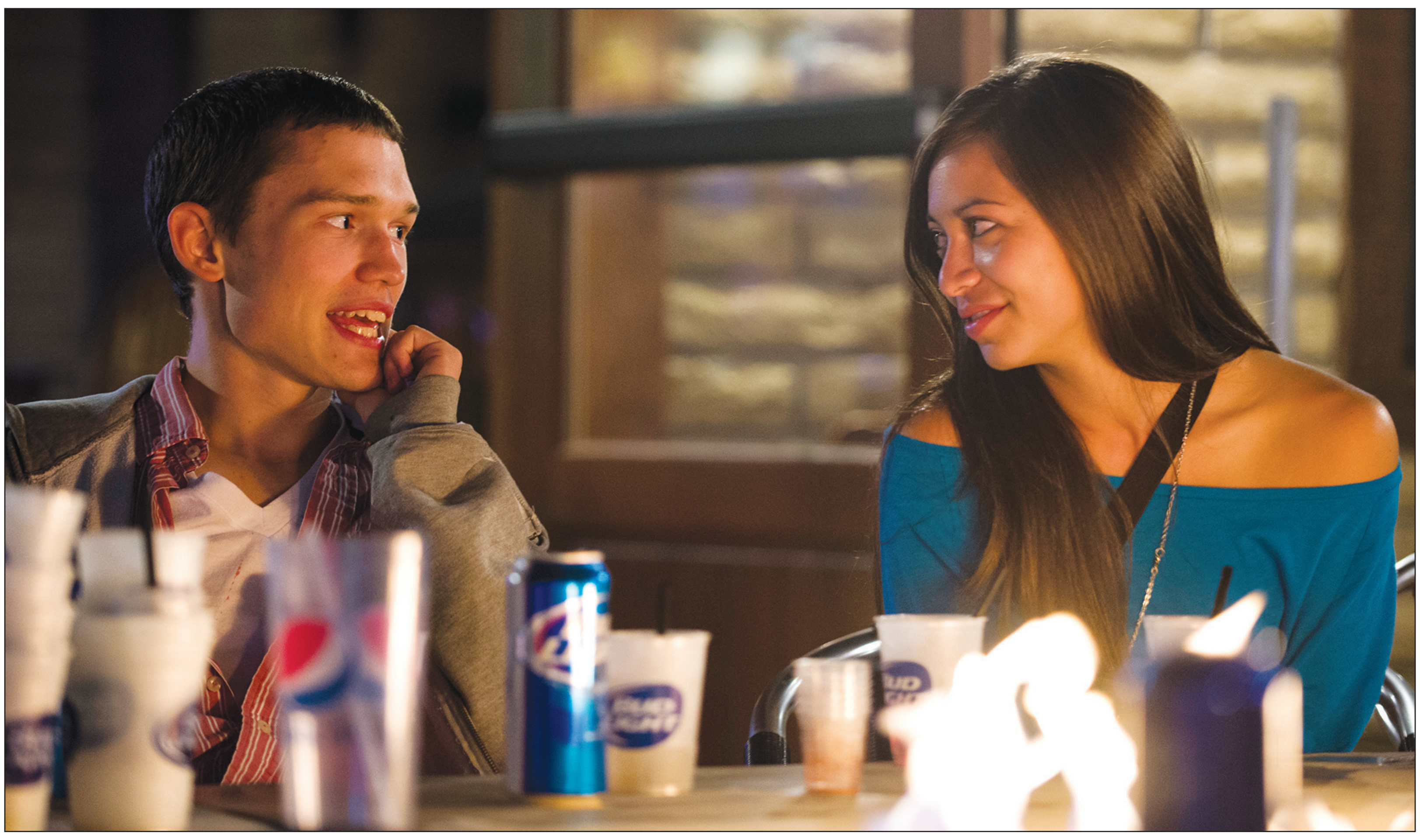
Florida State's Winston the clear choice

04 Opinion
Online petitions are worth the time after all

06 Technology
Apple agrees with Nisaan, others on iTunes Radio ad deals

Party, hookup scenes present at K-State differ from those at KU

Lauren Holtmeier
contributing writer



Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

A pair of Rusty's patrons chat at the fire pit, with a night's worth of drinks piled around them from various customers, on Sept. 21.

A recent story on Al Jazeera's "America Tonight" shed light on underage drinking and partying at college campuses, pointing out one university in particular— the University of Kansas.

Al Jazeera sent correspondent Casey Kauffman to KU to see what the party and hookup culture was like on campus. Kauffman found the KU students were readily willing to talk about the party life at their university. Students were quoted in the article with comments such as, "A couple that blacks out together, stays together." The article also indicated that many students have a laid back attitude towards hooking up while at parties.

These comments seemed to put KU officials in the hot seat. Tammara Durham, vice provost for student affairs at KU, said in an interview for the University Daily Kansan that the actions of these students only represent a small minority of KU students.

Drinking is a large part of many college campuses across the nation, but what's the party scene like at K-State? Hillary L'Ecuyer, senior in interior design, said that drinking has become an expectation in college.

BOOZE | pg. 5

Provost peels away at poverty's layers

Minh Mac | Collegian

Provost **April Mason** speaks to students about hunger issues from around the world yesterday evening in the Honors House classroom. The presentation, "Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition: What Can We Do?" was held by K-State First as part of the Beyond the Classroom series in order to inform K-students about global hunger.

Ellie Holcomb
staff writer

Provost April Mason, K-State's senior vice president and an expert on nutrition and food security, sat down with students in the Honors House classroom yesterday evening to discuss pressing worldwide issues and what university students can do about them.

"Can you think about what that is? To not have a full refrigerator? Maybe to not have a refrigerator?" Mason said. "Food security is having enough food obtained in a socially acceptable way to meet the nutritional needs of you and your family."

Hosted by Housing and Dining and K-State First, the Beyond the Classroom event was held as an open discussion where students were asked to delve into possible causes behind hunger.

"I haven't met a rich guy who went hungry yet," Xavier Capalla, junior in Spanish and biology, said. "If a family is able to provide for their basic needs, they won't have to go looking for food in the streets."

Mason further commented on the "socially acceptable" part of that definition, sharing stories of hungry families who resort to dumpster diving, scavenging in alleyways and begging for food. She spoke of families sharing a single egg six ways, a sobering tale after so many in the room were stuffed after a Thanksgiving of plenty.

"There are people here who don't really know where their next meal is coming from," Mason said. "I think that having a roof over our head and having a meal and having enough food to eat is something that is critically important to us. There are people who will wake up and won't have breakfast."

The event was centered not only around the extent of hunger and its impact, but on what students can do. Mason opened up discussion with students in attendance to see what they thought they could do about hunger.

"I always try to eat what I have on my plate," Hope Gates, freshman in animal science, said.

HUNGER | pg. 5

Microsoft Office 365 transition has highs, lows

Emily Grotenhuis
staff writer

Email is among the most important tools for college students today. From communicating with teachers to get assignments or to receive coupons from favorite Aggieville restaurants, email is used for all sorts of college-oriented communication. Because of this, many students and staff were caught off guard by the university's decision to switch to a new email and calendar client.

The migration to Microsoft Office 365 began with students – mainly incoming freshmen – in the summer, but most didn't make the switch until school began. An email with transition instructions was sent in waves to a small number of students each time. The Information Technology Center had said it hoped to have all students switched over by the end of the fall semester, which they've been unable to accomplish.

While most students are now working with the new program, others have yet to make the change. However, some have deemed email in general less of a priority when compared with other things.

"I still have the old email," Barrett Schmidt, sophomore in civil engineering, said. "I got an email saying I was supposed to switch over sometime in November and it never did. Doesn't bother me though, I like the

365 | pg. 5

Institute makes impact on military families

Ryan Manring
staff writer

There are over 18,000 active duty service men and women in Fort Riley and over 24,000 military family members that reside in the surrounding area, military families make up over 33 percent of the Riley County population. With the number of service men and women returning home with some form of Traumatic Brain Injury or other related disorders rising, the issue of trauma and its effect on military families is a very real issue many families in the Manhattan area community face everyday.

Briana Goff, director of the Institute for the Health and Security of Military Families, and her staff are dedicated to providing those families who have been affected by wartime trauma with services that are designed to identify and address the variety of complex effects of wartime service. According to Goff, the primary goal is the long-term health and security of veterans and military service men and women and their families.

Their services include a wide range of counseling services for individuals, couples or families, speech and language services for Traumatic Brain Injury or other disorders, and child and youth services for the children of deployed service men and women. The institute, located in K-State's School of Family Studies and Human Services, works along side a number of other organizations to fulfill as many needs as possible that need to be met.

In addition to their services and outreach they provide, the institute also conducts private research on military families – studying and testing how trauma and other related disorders are affecting families, and what methods can best resolve the issues thousands of families are facing everyday.

"There is a lot of worry in the military of what to do with people who come home with trauma and related disorders, and our research helps with that," said Kali Summers, a non-degree graduate student working alongside Goff with much of the institute's work and research. Summers said that their research is helping the military community at large begin to solve real issues in a variety of areas saying.

"Our research is going to help those who are working in behavioral help, academia, counseling and abuse and many other programs that help service members nation wide," Summers said.

Since 2009, Goff and her team have served the families in the area with their services and research and have grown rapidly.

"In 2005, the 'health and security of military families' became a primary focus to the School of Family Studies," Goff said, stating that her research has been going on much longer before the birth of the institute, now being over an eight year process.

"We are one of the best schools with military school partnership," Summers said.

Both Summers and Goff commented that continuing to integrate the school with the military is going to be crucial to the future growth of the institute.

"If I could predict what I would like to see by 2025, it would be a self-sustaining institute that still serves military families at its core, but that has a national reputation," Goff said.

Trees for despicably good cause

Minh Mac | Collegian

Alexis Bishop, a 2-year-old Manhattan resident, admires the "Despicable Me" themed Christmas tree with her grandmother **Lori Bishop**, executive director of RSVP Volunteer Center, at the 2013 Festival of Trees yesterday at the K-State Alumni Center. Proceeds of the Festival of Trees auction of unique Christmas trees benefited the RSVP of the Flint Hills Volunteer Center.

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ACROSS

1 Newspaper pg.
5 "Today I — man"
8 Country musician Atkins
12 Old fogy
13 That girl
14 Posterior
15 Sundae essential
17 Besides that
18 Parisian's refusal
19 Feedbag tidbit
20 Monopoly, Scrabble et al.
21 Despondent
22 Cooking spray name
23 "Cry, the Beloved Country" author Alan
26 Rubdown
30 "Zounds!"
31 Formal garb
32 Responsibility
33 Sleepwear
35 Second President
36 Candle matter
37 26-Across locale
38 Take five
41 Fleur-de- —
42 Altar affirmative
45 Leave out
46 Undulating mattress
48 Tragic
49 Ostrich's cousin
50 Pleasant
51 Celebrity
52 Spigot
53 Requests

DOWN

1 Valhalla VIP
2 Slightly, to the maestro
3 Paradise
4 Elmer, to Bugs
5 Winning
6 Vegan's no-no
7 Branch
8 Vanilla-flavored beverage
9 Steering site
10 Comfort
11 Very (Fr.)
16 Reddish horse
20 Petrol
21 Carbonated liquid
22 Peace (Lat.)
23 Energy
24 — Khan
25 — Mahal
26 Greek consonants
27 Santa — winds
28 Wrigley product
29 Curvy character?
31 Levy
34 Actor von Sydow
35 Church section
37 Stop slouching
38 Scepters
39 Send forth
40 Old Italian money
41 Tibetan monk
42 Wading bird
43 52 cards
44 Rhyming tributes
46 Sopping
47 Genetic letters

Solution time: 21 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 12-3

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
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38	39	40			■	41			■	42	43	44
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48				■	49			■	50			
51				■	52			■	53			

the FOURUM©

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Like and vote for your favorite posts at ***thefourum.net!***

The Fourum is a quirky view of campus life in voices from the K-State community. Positive and humorous comments are selected for publication by the Collegian marketing staff.

10. Deut. 28:53 Then because of the dire straits to which you will be reduced when your enemy besieges you, you will eat your own children, the flesh of your sons and daughters whom the Lord has given you. #Bible

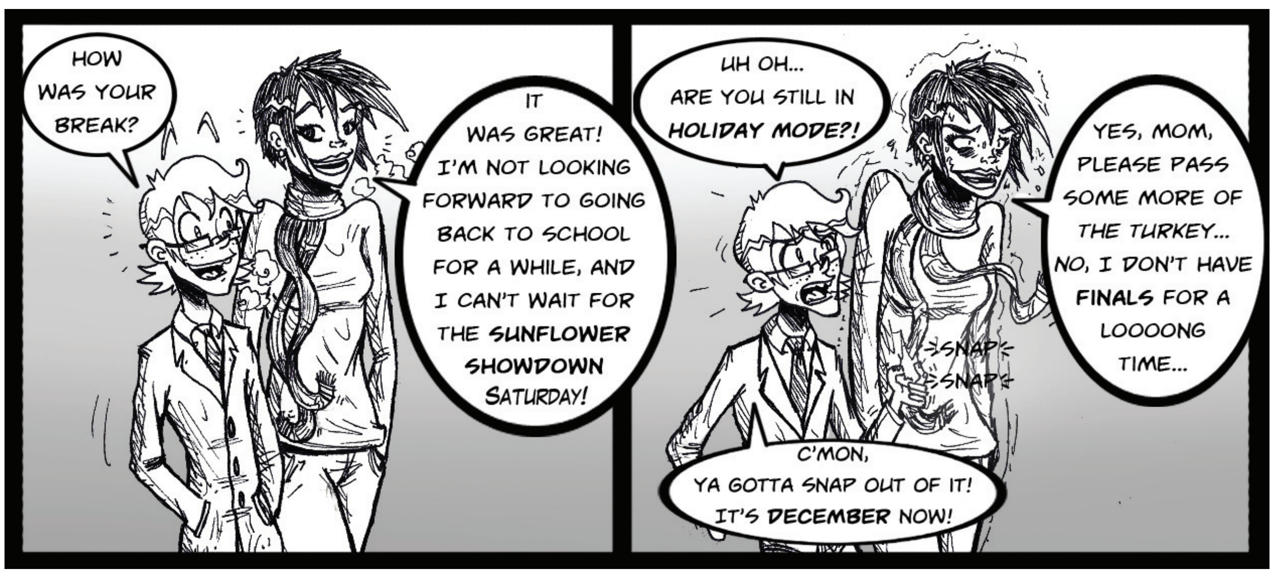
There's nothing like college: enjoying an early morning, "Just the Way You Are" sing-a-long in the dorm bathroom! "And when you smile..."

Pumpkin pie concrete at Freddy's is legit.

Dear college students that mooch: please respect those that have to work for their money by not taking forever at a gas station. Thanks. #2ndshiftproblems #broke

To submit your Fourum contribution, call or text 785-260-0207 or email *thefourum@kstatecollegian.com.* Your e-mail address or phone number is logged but not published.

For the Win | By Parker Wilhelm



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Collegian welcomes your letters. We reserve the right to edit submitted letters for clarity, accuracy, space and relevance. A letter intended for publication should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article that appeared in the Collegian within the last 10 issues. It must include the author's first and last name, year in school and major. If you are a graduate of K-State, the letter should include your year(s) of graduation and must include the city and state where you live. For a letter to be considered, it must include a phone number where you can be contacted. The number will not be published. Letters can be sent to *letters@kstatecollegian.com*.

Letters may be rejected if they contain abusive content, lack timeliness, contain vulgarity, profanity or falsehood, promote personal and commercial announcements, repeat comments of letters printed in other issues or contain attachments.

The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

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CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call managing editor Mike Stanton at 785-532-6556 or email *news@kstatecollegian.com*.

THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

Jonathan Masters Stanton, of the 700 block of Laramie Street, was booked for extradition of imprisoned persons. No bond was listed.

Cassandra Hernandez, of the 3300 block of Kensington Court, was booked for domestic battery. Bond was set at $1,000.

Miguel Angel Hernandez, of the 3300 block of Kensington Court, was booked for criminal damage to property. Bond was set at $1,000.

Jeremy Allen Mallam, of the 1900 block of Lincoln Drive, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license, accident involving damage to a vehicle or property and duty of driver to give notice of an accident. Bond was set at $2,500.

Derek Marsce Kendall Campbell, of the 4400 block of Tuttle Creek Boulevard, was booked for driver's license violation and failure to appear. Bond was set at $1,596.

Christopher Nix, of Fort Riley, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at $219.

Visit our new website at kstatecollegian.com Keep an eye out for new features and content.

12-3 **CRYPTOQUIP**

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHENEVER HOUDINI OR TRUMAN TORMENTED PEOPLE, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY THE VICTIMS WERE HARRIED.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals T

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POWERCAT PROFILE

LETICIA ROMERO

Emilio Rivera
staff writer

When the K-State women's basketball team reloaded over the summer, they picked up a key international player that has been a huge part of their offensive game plan through the first six games. That player is freshman guard Leticia Romero.

Hailing from Las Palmas, Spain, Romero is making an immediate impact for the Wildcats. Six games into the season, Romero leads the team in playing time with an average of 31.2 minutes per game.

Part of the success for Romero is that she already has had the opportunity to play against some of the best players in the world. She has been a part of six Spanish national teams. This past summer, Romero competed in both the FIBA U19 World Championships in Klaipeda, Lithuania in July and the U18 European Championships in Vukovar, Croatia in August.

Romero comes to Manhattan with many honors from her international background. The pinnacle of her awards was being named MVP of the 2013 U18 European Championships as she helped her country take gold in the tournament. Romero led all players in the tournament with 2.7 steals per game, which marked the second straight year she led the same tournament in steals. She added an average of 13.1 points, 3.6 assists and 5.1 rebounds pre game during the tournament. She was also named to the all-tournament team in the 2012 U17 World Championships in Amsterdam as she helped her team to a silver-medal finish.

Romero also played on a professional women's team in the Spanish Liga Femenina. She played in her first game for Gran Canaria — the same team that former Wildcat Brittany Chambers currently plays for — when she was only 15, playing for 10 minutes and scoring two points in her first contest. She averaged 7.59 points in her three-year career with the team. She helped her team advance to the quarterfinals of the 2012 EuroCup, a competition that helps determine the best women's basketball team in Europe.

Parker Robb | Collegian

Freshman guard **Leticia "Leti" Romero** keeps the ball away from a defender during the Wildcats' game against Alaska-Anchorage on Nov. 1. Romero, who hails from Las Palmas, Spain, has used her international experience to become a leader on the women's basketball team and make an impact in the Wildcats' offensive game.

Now, Romero comes into the NCAA trying to bring some of that success with her. The style of play she brings from in Europe is dramatically different from the style of play she will face at the collegiate level.

"[Leticia] is learning the speed and physicality of our game," head coach Deb Patterson said on media day before the season. "The game that she comes from in Spain is a finesse game."

Romero seems to be finding a niche with the team and is quickly becoming a leader on the court. She is fourth in the Big 12 in both assists and steals, averaging 5.50 assists and 2.33 steals per game.

"She is learning a great deal, but she is such a great talent that as she becomes more aggressive and confident, I think we will see her assume a greater level of playmaking," Patterson said.

While her passing skills rank among the best in the conference, Romero is becoming a scoring force for the Wildcats. She has scored in double digits four times in the short six-game span. Romero, in what was only her second game playing in a Wildcat jersey, had 25 points coming at home against Charlotte.

"All of the coaches and players have given me the confidence and now I feel comfortable," Romero said after the Charlotte game. "I really enjoy playing with this team."

In her last two years with her national teams, she averaged in double digit points in two of the three competitions she competed in. At the age of 17, she averaged 9.3 points per game in the 2012 U18 European Championships, but she offset the points by leading the tournament in steals, with an average of 2.6 per game.

Romero is also becoming skilled at grabbing rebounds for the Wildcats. She averages 6.3 rebounds per game, a mark that is second to only the 6.7 rebounds per game of fellow freshman forward Breanna Lewis.

"Back in Spain, I was not a really good rebounder," Romero said. "I think I have learned it here since the first practice, when the coaches were telling me all the time to rebound."

For a young team like the Wildcats, Romero's experience against some of the best competition in the world will help her make an immediate impact down the road for the team. She will still have to develop her game just like any other freshman in college basketball, while at the same time getting acclimated to the American system.

"Leti is a great talent and is going to be fun to watch," Patterson said. "But she is still a freshman and is learning a great deal."

Only time will tell what Romero will mean for this Wildcat team, but if she performs like she has in the past, watch out.

Chiefs lose to Broncos for second time; haven't won game in month

Austin Earl
staff writer

The Chiefs could not overcome their arch rivals for the second time this season, as they lost to the Denver Broncos 35-28. This is the Chiefs' third straight loss, all of which have come against divisional opponents.

It has been a frustrating three weeks for Chiefs fans. After starting 9-0, the Chiefs are now a long shot to win the AFC West and haven't won a game in a full calendar month.

The Chiefs' pass rush is one of the biggest reasons the team is no longer winning. It's not necessarily the Chiefs' fault as much as it is their competition. The last two quarterbacks they've faced – Peyton Manning and Philip Rivers – are both in the top ten for least amount of time before a passing attempt, according to Pro Football Focus. That leaves no time for linebackers Tamba Hali, Justin Houston or Frank Zombo to reach them for a sack. Without any pressure, quarterbacks like Rivers and Manning will rip apart a secondary.

The effects of pass rush were clearly seen on Sunday. Early in the game, Hali and the rest of the Chiefs' defense were putting pressure on Manning. Manning threw two interceptions that were caused by rushed decisions. But as Hali's aching ankle took a toll on him, Manning took his toll on the Chiefs defense. He was no longer being rushed to throw the ball, and he was able to find wide receiver Eric Decker running free on many occasions. Manning's ability to find Decker is what led the Broncos back from an early 21-7 deficit.

Quarterback Alex Smith was a bright spot for the Chiefs on Sunday. Just like the last game against the Broncos, Smith's stat line wasn't pretty. He was 26 for 42 with 293 yards, two touchdowns and one interception. However, these numbers don't account for the crucial drops by Chiefs receivers.

Smith's one interception wasn't caused by a dropped pass, but rather a terrible decision. On the first possession of the game, the Chiefs drove down the field very easily. With first and goal from the 2-yard line, Smith forced a pass into the end zone right to Broncos linebacker Wesley Woodyard.

Just like Anthony Sherman's fumble in Week 11, the Chiefs' crucial mistake in the red zone cost them a touchdown. That touchdown could have changed the entire game. The Chiefs cannot afford to make mistakes like that in games against good teams. They simply aren't talented enough to overcome mental errors.

In the second half, seemingly on every big play that the offense needed to make, Alex Smith delivered, but his receivers let him down. Drops from Donnie Avery, Anthony Fasano and others crippled the Chiefs progress.

The Chiefs are not far off from being able to win these types of games. The Chiefs offense is playing their best of the year, while the defense has fallen back to earth. If the Chiefs want to win their first playoff game in 20 years, they must have both sides of the ball play at their peak levels. It's not impossible for them to win games against great teams like the Broncos, but improvement is necessary.

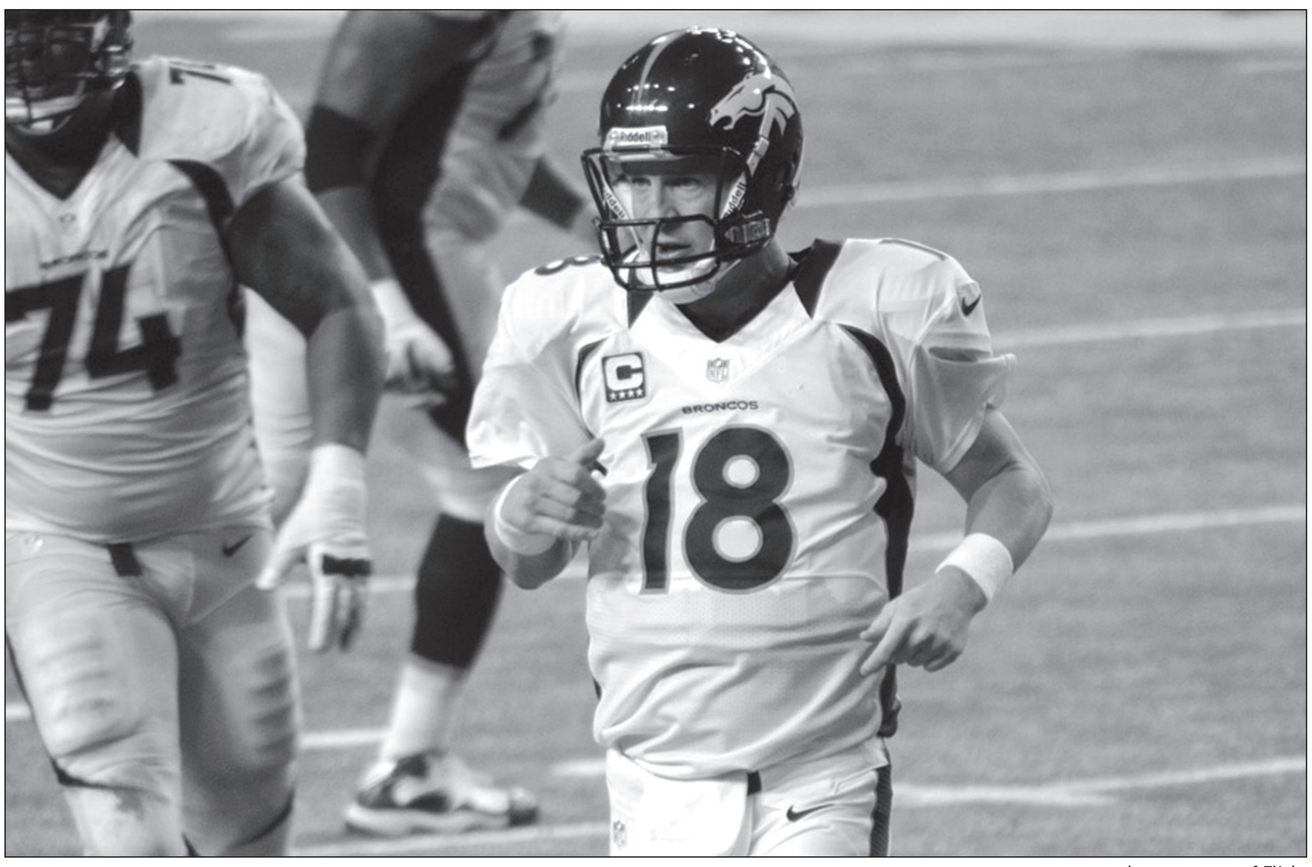

photo courtesy of Flickr

Broncos quarterback **Peyton Manning** started slow on Sunday thanks to pressure from the Chiefs defense, but came alive later to erase a 21-7 deficit and help his team take control of the AFC West.

The Chiefs need receivers to step up and catch passes when the game is on the line instead of choking them away like they did on Sunday. The defense needs a healthy Hali and Houston to wreak havoc on opposing quarterbacks, which takes pressure off of a secondary that has been exposed in recent weeks.

Fixing this Chiefs team is easier said than done. It's one thing to write it out on paper, and another thing to realize it on the field. Only time will tell if they are up to the challenge.

Heisman Watch Finale: Winston clear winner pending rape investigation

Corbin McGuire
staff writer

So my hopes for a group of Heisman Trophy finalists with zero losses and untarnished reputations a few weeks ago were ripped to shreds.

Bryce Petty and Baylor felt the pain of key players being injured when the Bears fell hard to the Oklahoma State Cowboys 49-17 to end their undefeated season and any hope at a BCS National Championship.

With one less undefeated quarterback in his way and two big road games to sway some voters' minds, Texas A&M's Johnny Manziel fumbled away his opportunity to repeat as the Heisman winner. The sophomore fell to both LSU, 34-10, and Missouri, 28-21, completing just 53 percent of his passes between both games.

The door then opened for Alabama's golden boy quarterback, A.J. McCarron, to sneak into the serious Heisman Trophy conversations despite not being able to measure up statistically to Petty or Manziel on the season. However, after last Saturday's Iron Bowl that ended with Auburn winning in one of the most memorable conclusions in the history of college football, McCarron's chance at a third-straight national championship and first Heisman Trophy disappeared.

So now I'm left to choose between Florida State's Jameis Winston, still undefeated but surrounded by the negativity of an investigation into an alleged sexual assault; Northern Illinois' Jordan Lynch, whose stats are great but beat just two BCS schools in Iowa and Purdue; and Boston College's Andre Williams, a sensational running back on a team with five losses.

After contemplating for a few days on which player I'd vote for if I had the chance, Winston is the choice I came up with for a few reasons.

Throwing all his possible legal troubles out the window, Winston is hands down the choice. Obviously, if Winston is actually charged with rape before the polls close, losing the Heisman Trophy will be a distant disappointment for Florida State and college football in general.

Until a decision is made one way or the other, though, Winston's on-field performance deserves to be recognized Dec. 14 in New York.

The No. 1 Seminoles (12-0, 8-0) are just one win away from a BCS National Championship game, their first since 1999, against Ohio State if they win the Big 10 Championship.

If the Seminoles can take care of No. 20 Duke, the ACC Coastal champion, and avoid being on the wrong end of the biggest upset this college football season, then Winston would have an unblemished freshman campaign on the football field in a BCS conference complimented by his stellar statistics.

Winston leads the NCAA in passing efficiency with 192.6 and has thrown 35 touchdowns – third best in the NCAA – to only eight interceptions. He also ranks third in the NCAA in yards per completion at just more than 16-yards per completion.

Even as the media attention surrounding the sexual assault investigation has grown, Winston's production has stayed at a high level. In last week's rivalry game against Florida, Winston sliced the Gators' secondary for 327 yards passing and three touchdowns as the Seminoles cruised to a 37-7 victory.

Winston won't be the first Heisman Trophy candidate with a dark cloud hovering over his name, although a rape allegation is a much darker cloud than even Manziel can create. If his name is cleared, though, there's no reason Winston shouldn't become the second freshmen in a row to hoist the Heisman Trophy.

Religion cannot be 'virus of the mind' as suggested

Illustration by Gannon Huiting

Andrew Rogers
Staff Writer

Many prominent atheists, including Oxford biologist Richard Dawkins and the late Christopher Hitchens, have argued that without parental indoctrination very few children would naturally form a belief in God. In his book "God is Not Great," Hitchens argued that, "if religious instruction were not allowed until the child had attained the age of reason, we would be living in quite a different world."

To Hitchens, this "different world" means that there would be far fewer theists and far more atheists. Dawkins makes a similar argument in his book "The God Delusion," where he says, "Natural selection builds child brains with a tendency to believe whatever their parents and tribal elders tell them. Such trusting obedience is valuable for survival ... [but] the inevitable by-product is vulnerability to infection by mind viruses."

In fact, Dawkins has argued that theism is an unnatural, destructive meme which infects human minds through indoctrination and brainwashing.

In order to assess the plausibility of the Dawkins "mind virus" hypothesis we should attempt to find some observable predictions for the hypothesis. If we find that the predictions made by the hypothesis are found in the real world, then we will have found some corroborating evidence for the hypothesis. If we find that things are not as the hypothesis predicts, then the hypothesis will be falsified.

If Dawkins' hypothesis is correct, then we should expect to find evidence for the following two outcomes. First, we should expect the children of atheist parents to very rarely believe in God. If religion is unnatural and the mechanism for becoming religious is parental brainwashing, then children who do not encounter the mechanism should not become religious. Second, we should expect atheism to have a high retention rate. Atheists' children should remain atheists once they grow up because they will have passed the highly gullible childhood stage without being exposed to parental brainwashing.

Unfortunately for Dawkins, these predictions are both contradicted by the fact that, according to the Pew Forum U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, atheists have the lowest retention rate of any worldview at 30 percent. This means that only 30 percent of the children whose parents were atheists retained their atheism as adults. This is compared to 84 percent for Hindus, 68 percent for Catholics, and 60 percent for Baptists. If atheism is natural and religion is only caused by brainwashing, then atheists ought to have the highest retention rate of any religion. How could it be that 70 percent of the children of atheists leave atheism when the mechanism for leaving atheism, parental brainwashing, is not present?

These predictions are also contradicted by numerous case studies from Oxford Psychologist Justin Barrett's book "Born Believers," in which the small children of atheist parents, to the shock of their parents, express a strong belief in God. Barrett cites many case studies of atheist parents who are surprised at their young child's insistence that God exists in spite of their attempts to teach them otherwise. In one case an atheist parent tells his young daughter, Anna, that God didn't create the universe, but that there had been a big bang a long long time ago that caused the universe to just appear out of nothing. Anna responded, "God must have been surprised."

Barrett also tells of a case where a young boy couldn't stop laughing hysterically when his atheist mother told the researcher that she didn't believe in God. In response to his mother's atheist answer, the boy said, "Mum, why are you saying 'no'? The answer should be yes!" Barrett goes on to explain that "He found his mother's obvious confusion a source of amusement throughout and kept laughing at her ridiculous answers. How could she get something so wrong that was so obvious to him?"

Both of the outcomes predicted by the Dawkins' hypothesis have turned out to be the opposite of what we see in the actual world. The evidence against Dawkins has been so overwhelming that Susan Blackmore, one of the most vocal supporters of his "religion as a mind virus" theory, recently wrote an article for the Guardian retracting her support for the theory. She stated that after attending a recent conference on the Cognitive Science of Religion and watching presentation after presentation on the benefits of religious belief, she was convinced by the evidence that religion was not a dangerous "mind virus."

After summarizing the presentations she wrote that, "All this suggests that religious memes are adaptive rather than viral from the point of view of human genes, but could they still be viral from our individual or societal point of view? Apparently not, given data suggesting that religious people are happier and possibly even healthier than secularists ... it seems I was wrong and the idea of religions as 'viruses of the mind' may have had its day."

Andrew Rogers is a junior in philosophy. Please comments to *opinion@k-statecollegian.com*.

Online petitions can be an effective way to make impact on world

Patrick White

Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

Last semester I wrote a column arguing that online petitions are pointless. I wrote about the Kony 2012 campaign's interest in making money and the popularity of a "build the Death Star" petition on the White House site. I still think those are examples of bad and wasteful things but, on the whole, I've come to the realization that what I said back then was wrong. Online petitions can make a difference; even ones that are bad.

Take Kony 2012, the campaign led by Invisible Children. According to the Telegraph, in April of this year, the U.S. government offered a $5 million reward for information on Joseph Kony. Kony, the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army, was accused by Invisible Children activists and others of multiple counts of war crimes. The U.S. had already sent over 100 military advisors back in 2012, but it is unknown if that was in response to the viral video campaign.

The reason I am constantly deriding Invisible Children is that, upon close inspection, they have a shady track record. According to the Guardian, they spend around 30 percent of their donations on their own cause and the rest on luxurious travel expenses and high salaries. They also are not exactly welcome in Uganda. The film is mocked there for having information that was 10 years old when the video was new, not introducing African solutions to the problem, but rather shaming the West into giving the charity money and military support and for providing other incorrect information.

Taking a look elsewhere there are other, perhaps more positive, examples of online petitioners – or "slacktivists," as they are pejoratively called – making a difference. In the Nov. 11 issue of Time magazine this year, there was a technology spotlight on change.org. It listed some big causes that the website had recently lent a hand to. Initiatives like banning everyone's favorite "pink slime" from school lunches, informing people that the NFL is apparently the biggest nonprofit and getting India to regulate the sale of acid in the country to stop people from attacking women with it.

Ultimately, despite some discouraging examples, online petitions are a legitimate and effective avenue to take. Even if it's for a hypocritical or two-faced charity that is booed in the country it's supposed to help, you can at least say that there were results from an action you took. It is still a lot better than denouncing those who try and high-fiving your friends about how you made fun of that video everyone you know thinks is annoying.

So here is a request: think about advocating for something you think is wrong. The world needs more solutions than it needs apathy and procrastination.

Patrick White is a senior in journalism and electronic media. Please send all comments to *opinion@kstatecollegian.com*.

BOOZE | Student says key to drinking is limitations; 'don't be an idiot'

Continued from page 1

"I think that underage drinking has become part of our culture in the United States, due to the fact that we always want what we can't have," L'Ecuyer said.

L'Ecuyer suggested that many European countries with lower drinking ages do not have the problem the U.S. does simply because kids don't feel the need to break the rules.

"If you look at it morally, some would say yes, it's wrong because it's illegal in the eyes of the justice system," L'Ecuyer said. "But socially, it's what we've been conditioned to expect when in college."

Laura Brannon, professor of psychology at K-State, agreed with what L'Ecuyer had to say.

"Research shows that drinking decreases when students reach the legal drinking age," Brannon said. "Underage drinkers often drink a lot in order to show they are 'grown up' and to assert their freedom to do what they want. They don't want people telling them what to do."

Shane Singleton, senior in electrical engineering, said he didn't get much pressure to drink, but his friends played a role in his choices.

"Personally, I felt most pressured to drink when I just wanted to be with my friends. That was my choice, though," Singleton said. "I didn't get much pressure to drink [externally]. On the other hand, I have several friends who live for drinking on the weekends because 'it's what you do.'"

While underage drinking is one thing, hooking up with a stranger at a party is another ballgame entirely. Singleton pointed out many downsides of possible drunken hookups such as ending up alone with a stranger, STDs and possible emotional trauma.

"I don't believe underage drinking is the wisest decision one can make," Singleton said.

Singleton also noted that guys tend to be more sexually aggressive by nature, but when alcohol is involved, "every kiss does not begin with Kay, but rather with Bud Light."

Brannon pointed out some of the psychological tolls alcohol takes on a person that might make one think a one-time drunken hookup is okay. She said that alcohol suppresses activity in the part of the brain that makes people inhibited and not impulsive. People will do things under the influence that they would never do sober.

Brannon said that there's also research that shows that people use alcohol as an excuse to do things they never would do sober. She said people sometimes use excess alcohol intake as an excuse for abnormal behavior, however, this does not mean it is common

"It should be made clear that it's not up to other people to decide what the drinker's motivation is, and no one should take advantage of a person who has been drinking," Brannon said.

L'Ecuyer agreed with Brannon. She said that people should make their own decisions, sober or not.

"Ultimately, sex is an act that should be undertaken with mutual consent; if both parties aren't able to make that consenting decision for themselves, one or both should be responsible enough to just not do it," L'Ecuyer said.

According to Singleton, no matter what a person's views are on drinking, it's important to know your limits.

"Have fun, but don't be an idiot," Singleton said.

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Parker Robb | Collegian

William Baldwin, junior in computer science and Spanish, checks his K-State Webmail yesterday evening. K-State is in the midst of transferring all email accounts from Zimbra to Microsoft Office 365. Some students have been using the new Outlook interface for weeks, while others still have yet to see theirs switch from Zimbra.

365 | Students differ in views of new interface

Continued from page 1

old system."

An issue vocalized by students who have migrated to the new email system is making the change on all of their devices.

"It was annoying having to go change my email user on my phone, laptop and iPad," Emilie Redmond, sophomore in business administration, said. "Once I actually figured out how to do it, it took forever."

The university signed a contract in June to provide the Microsoft Office 365 services. The new system includes hosted email and calendaring that can be accessed from any device and a default mailbox size of 25 GB; all improvements from the old email service, Zimbra.

Students who have made the switch smoothly say they have seen the benefits.

"I like the new design," Anthony Ross, junior in computer engineering, said. "It took me a while to get used to the layout and functionality but it has some useful features."

Faculty, staff and teachers are the next to make the migration. The final change comes on Jan. 6 before the spring semester begins.

"As for advice for future users, I would just say to expect to get used to the layout changes," Ross said. "Once you get used to it, it's great."

HUNGER | Students gain global perspective

Continued from page 1

Mason said she is passionate to help students understand that they can do to make a difference in the problem that is food insecurity.

"We have enough food, but does everyone have enough food?" Mason said. "It's hard for us to acknowledge that people are food insecure."

Mason confirmed the link between poverty and hunger as well as an even more complex link between poverty, hunger and obesity.

"Poverty is like an onion," Mason said. "You peel away one part and get to another part. You can't get to the heart of it because there are so many layers."

Mason's passion about the issue was uncontested from those in attendance.

"I was really pleased with how great of a job Provost Mason did presenting something that's often overlooked here in the states, and how she's very passionate about getting the word out about food security issues here in the U.S.," Capalla said.

Overall, those in attendance walked away with a wider perspective on the global hunger issue.

"We're trying to illustrate that learning happens everywhere," Greg Eiselein, K-State First director and professor of English, said. "We're trying to get faculty to get here and talk about their area of expertise, about things they're passionate about."

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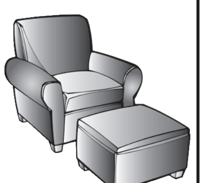

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Conceptis SudoKu By Dave Green

		7			6			
		1	2			4		
4	5						3	
	3		5	7				8
9				8	1		5	
	9						8	3
		8			4	5		
			9			6		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/19

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Answer to the last Sudoku.

3	1	2	7	4	8	9	5	6
9	7	8	2	6	5	1	3	4
6	4	5	1	3	9	2	7	8
4	2	9	6	8	7	3	1	5
7	3	1	5	9	4	6	8	2
8	5	6	3	1	2	7	4	9
1	9	3	8	5	6	4	2	7
5	6	7	4	2	3	8	9	1
2	8	4	9	7	1	5	6	3

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'Resogun' makes you return for more on PlayStation 4

Resogun
★★★★★
Game review by Tate Steinlage

Few games have the ability to captivate audiences. Fewer more do so in a way that's remarkably addicting by being deceptively simple. Housemarque's "Resogun" accomplishes both in an experience that tops the PlayStation 4's launch lineup.

As a side-scrolling shooter that echoes the enjoyment of retro-classics like "Defender" and "Datastorm," the way "Resogun" captures the heart and soul of playing for high scores shouldn't come as a surprise.

The game trashes the idea of 2-D play on a flat surface. Instead, "Resogun" is entirely on a cylindrical plane that adds depth to the world in what you see on screen. The game literally sends you in circles. Instead of becoming tiresome, the game flourishes as open-eyed fun that adds a fresh take on the genre.

The idea of the game is simple: control your fighter ship and shoot down an onslaught of various enemies, all while attempting to save the last humans from enemy control. You'll use an upgradeable supply of lasers, bombs and overdrive to accomplish the task.

That last statement is bold. This isn't a full-fledged, "AAA" retail release. This is an indie game about surviving waves of enemies that surprisingly has an end.

Something about the speedy game play of "Resogun" just keeps you coming back for more – whether it's to climb up the leader boards, beat yours or a friend's high score or just to sit back and play for a while. The game offers an endless amount of re-playability within a limited amount of content. This in itself is worth all the praise.

Housemarque should also be applauded for crafting a game that's absolutely gorgeous, and one that uses the PlayStation 4's power exceptionally well. The former is exemplified by the "Tron-like" backdrops that pop in various colors, while the latter can be seen by what's been marketed as "voxels."

Voxels, also known as volumetric pixels, is just simple "Resogun" terminology for when one destroys things in the environment and they fall apart into thousands of tiny, individual cubes. In fact, the game supports up to 500,000 voxels on screen at any one time, each geometrically individual from one another.

This added destruction creates some of the most satisfying, and sometimes unpredictable, moments. For instance, Boss battles in the game's end in "Armageddon," which is a glorious moment of colorful, voxel explosion where you're able to put the controller down for a second and just admire the beauty on screen.

"Resogun" is a game that must be played to be fully appreciated. There's just something about the tense feeling you get when you're nearly swarmed by enemies and you're able to survive and see the enemy waste in your path.

This game is a fresh reminder that games are fun. They're not always a chore of completing missions to see the credits roll on a 60-hour story. Sometimes it's just about fun game play that'll bring you back to the roots of why you started gaming in the first place.

"Resogun" is absolutely deserving of a five out of five rating, and the title of the PlayStation 4's most enjoyable launch title.

Tate Steinlage is a sophomore in pre-journalism. Please send all comments to edge.kstatecollegian.com.

Nissan, iTunes Radio reach exclusive marketing partnership

Nicolas Wahl
staff writer

If one spent time listening to Apple's latest product to launch, dubbed iTunes Radio by the tech giant, then one has probably noticed that the majority of the advertisements between songs are Nissan ads.

The reason is a brand-building partnership between the two companies that has made Nissan the exclusive automotive partner and only car manufacturer able to market their products on Apple's "Next Big Thing" through the remainder of 2013.

Kevin Gwinner, professor of marketing, said the exclusivity could be a big boost in profit for any company working with a company as big as Apple. The partnership sets potential customers up for a phenomenon known as brand transfer.

"You won't see Toyota, Ford or any other brand there," Gwinner said. "If I think of Apple as cutting-edge technology, then that image can translate to their sponsors, which is a benefit to Nissan."

According to an article by Daniel Dilger from Sept. 4, Nissan, along with companies like McDonald's, Pepsi and Proctor and Gamble, have paid upwards of $10 million a piece to Apple's advertising platform iAd, to become the exclusive partners of their respective industries.

Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Apple's large following of loyal customers seems to be enough for these giants, in their own industry, to take the high-priced plunge.

"We see iTunes Radio as an integral part of our new vehicle launches and 'big moments,' riding the wave of interest and usage of this exciting new service to maximize exposure of Nissan's new models," said Jon Brancheau, vice president of marketing, Nissan North America, Inc., in a Sept. 23 Nissan press release. "We're also adding iAd on iTunes Radio as a critical platform in support of ongoing campaigns, such as our college football and Heisman Trophy Tour initiatives. It's a great way for Nissan to reach the right audiences in the right markets."

While Nissan might not have the clout that some of these other brands hold, the automaker has become a major player in the auto industry as record sales in October 2013 support. The company, which also owns the luxury brand Infinity, sold 91,018 vehicles in October, an increase of 14.2 percent from a year ago.

No Nissan vehicle saw a better sales increase than the Leaf, an all-electric and tech loaded compact, which had a 26.8 percent increase on its own. It's no surprise that the Leaf, along with Nissan's 2014 Versa Note and the 2014 Rogue, have high technology and miles per gallon and each feature iTunes Radio.

Tina Ratcliff, senior in marketing and entrepreneurship, said Nissan is definitely tapping into the environmentally conscious stereotype of Apple consumers, but that is just the tip of the iceberg.

"That's definitely going to play into it," Ratcliff said. "There are a lot of different reasons that people are targeting Apple, but the number one [thing] is because it's that market. Apple appeals to a certain type of person."

It's a market that consists primarily of potential customers who are going to be at their highest purchasing power in the coming years.

"These are people that can afford these products," Ratcliff said. "People who can afford an iPhone [and] an iPad can probably afford a Nissan."

It was originally reported incorrectly that Nissan would be the exclusive automaker to have iTunes Radio. Though that rumor was false, if something that is this exclusive does occur, Gwinner said it could be huge for Nissan.

"I think Nissan would be paying iTunes in that case," Gwinner said. "Any sort of new feature like this is big. Believe it or not, cupholders didn't used to exist in cars. So when Honda and Toyota [started] introducing their cars to the U.S., they put cupholders in, and people would come in and say 'I want to see that car with the cupholders.'"

If cupholders can do it, being the only cars with iTunes Radio installed provides interest.

Evan Yule, senior in advertising, said he still isn't buying into the hype.

"I know they're trying to build a market of future car buyers, but if I'm not in the market for cars or insurance, it's just kind of like nothing noise," Yule said.

Xbox One's ambitious 'all-in-one' system

Xbox One
★★★★☆
Console review by Tate Steinlage

Microsoft had a rocky road leading up to the launch of the Xbox One.

Facing backlash over the console's $499 price tag, always-on requirement and "ban" on used games, Microsoft had to spend months repairing its poor public relations image through several policy changes and gamer-friendly announcements.

With the Xbox One now available, it can be confidently said that Microsoft's backpedaling has resulted in a promising piece of hardware that does indeed do more than just play video games.

Hardware

It really says a lot about your system when the most frustrating issue is the size itself. The Xbox One is large, measuring in at 13.5 inches wide and 10.4 inches long. In fact, it's bigger than the original design of the Xbox 360 that launched in 2005. When compared to the PlayStation 4, which is incredibly compact even with a built-in power brick, the Xbox One seems like a behemoth of a system.

The size of the system isn't without reason, though. Xbox 360 owners can probably recall the mass console failure dubbed the "red ring of death" that plagued millions of consoles. Microsoft has tried to avoid a similar issue with the Xbox One by giving the built-in fan a big empty space to release heat, which the console does really well.

The appearance of the system was another feature that received a heavy dose of criticism. Message boards and Internet comment sections called the system a "glorified VHS player" with its square design that, in all fairness, doesn't catch the eye like the PlayStation 4 does.

However, I found that the two-toned black design featuring matte and gloss finishing makes up for the "drab" shape. And like the PlayStation 4, the system looks great on any entertainment center, barring that you have the space to fit both the Xbox One and its external power brick.

User Interface

The Xbox One both succeeds and fails with its user interface.

The "Windows 8-esque" design of the Xbox One dashboard has the ability to be neat and easy to access. But at first glance, it is a cluttered mess of icons and applications.

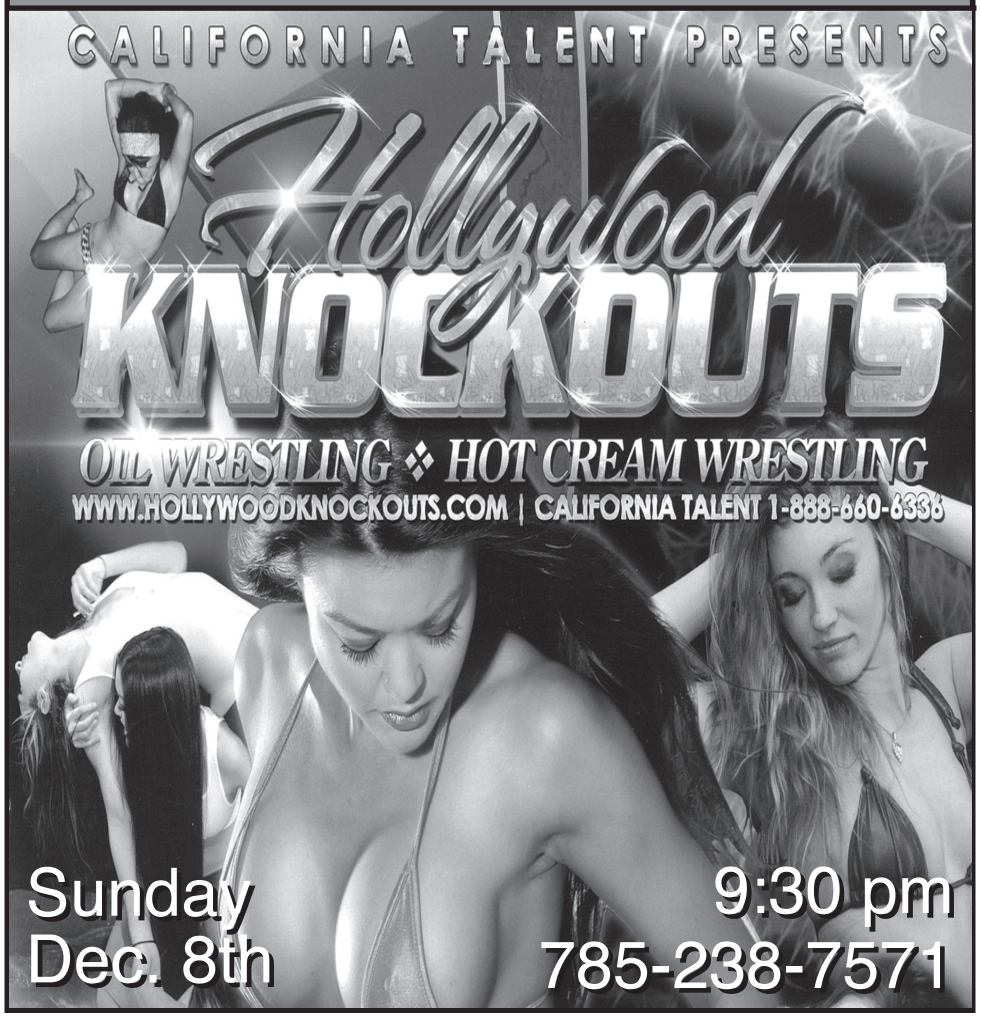
More so, some features you'd expect to be on the main dashboard in its own category are buried elsewhere in places that don't make sense. For example, settings are found in the games page, rather than being its own entity on the front page.

However, the dashboard excels thanks to the "pin to home" button that allows you to put your favorite games and applications in one place on the homepage. It is also incredibly easy to navigate through the controller and voice commands via the Xbox Kinect.

The latter of these is surprisingly seamless thanks to the Kinect's new technology. The only time I ever had an issue was when there was a considerable amount of background noise, i.e. talking and music, that flooded the device's built-in microphone.

When it works, though, it justifies the inclusion of a Kinect, especially when you add in better body reading and the ability to read QR codes, i.e. Xbox Live codes.

Don't forget graphics! See *www.kstatecollegian.com* for more on the Xbox One



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